

AMENDMENT OF THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Abstract appearing on page 28 as follows:

B1
A method where ~~For remnants of a determined type, e.g. hides,~~ at least one mask is established for a remnant ~~whose are that~~ is subdivided into various zones which correspond to different ~~value levels of a characteristic~~ characteristics of the material of the remnant, e.g. the color and grain of the leather. A set of constraints is assigned to component pieces of ~~a determined type of an~~ article, ~~which set of constraints includes at least one value constraint for a characteristic of the material of the remnant, and links.~~ Links can also be ~~are~~ defined between some of the component pieces, ~~which links have different levels as a function in particular of relationships imposed between constraints assigned to the pieces.~~ ~~The digitized image of each remnant has applied to it the~~ At least one mask or each mask corresponding to the type of is applied to the remnant so as to subdivide the image of the remnant into ~~various~~ zones having uniform characteristics; ~~and laying~~ Laying out is performed automatically by disposing the pieces in the zones of the image of the remnant as a function of any constraints assigned to the pieces, and in compliance with the links defined between the pieces.
